

# TESTIMONIALS

IN FAVOUR OF

JOHN M. COWAN, B.A., M.B., B.C.,

FELLOW OF THE FACULTY OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS ;

LECTURER ON PRACTICE OF MEDICINE, WESTERN MEDICAL SCHOOL ;

EXTRA DISPENSARY PHYSICIAN, WESTERN INFIRMARY ;

EXTRA HONORARY PHYSICIAN, ROYAL HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN ;

RESEARCH STUDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW.



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14 WOODSIDE CRESCENT,  
GLASGOW, 7th April, 1902.

*TO THE MANAGERS OF  
THE WESTERN INFIRMARY.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to offer myself as a candidate for the post of Dispensary Physician in the Western Infirmary.

You elected me to the Extra Dispensary Staff in January, 1899, and since then I have frequently acted in the dispensary in the absence of the Physicians.

For the last three years I have been one of Dr. Gemmell's clinical assistants, and, as such, have been constantly working in his wards; and I have also been working under Dr. Muir in the Pathological Institute.

During the summer of 1900 I served in South Africa, as Physician to the Scottish National Red Cross Hospital.

I append testimonials from Professors Gemmell and Muir, and from Deputy Surgeon General H. Cayley, C.M.G., under whom I served at Kroonstad.

In addition, I have reprinted, with the permission of the writers, the testimonials which I submitted to your consideration on my former application in January, 1899.

Should I have the honour of being elected, I shall discharge the duties to the best of my abilities, and, I trust, to your satisfaction.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN M. COWAN.



## TESTIMONIALS.

*From* DEPUTY SURGEON GENERAL H. CAYLEY, C.M.G.,  
F.R.C.S., *Hon. Surgeon to H.M. the King ; Com-  
mandant, Scottish National Red Cross Hospital, South  
Africa.*

CHERRAHURST,  
WEYBRIDGE, 18th March, 1902.

I HAVE much pleasure in testifying to the high opinion I entertain of the professional attainments and ability of DR. COWAN, and of his fitness to hold a post on the medical staff of a hospital.

Dr. Cowan served under me as first physician of the Scottish National Red Cross Hospital at Kroonstad in South Africa during 1900. He always treated the sick under his charge with great skill and efficiency, and was thoroughly conversant with the duties of a Hospital Physician. He was also a high-minded gentleman and a good comrade, and I heartily wish him success in his present application for a post in the Western Infirmary, Glasgow.

HENRY CAYLEY.

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*From* SAMSON GEMMELL, M.D., *Professor of Clinical  
Medicine, University of Glasgow.*

17 WOODSIDE PLACE, CHARING CROSS,  
GLASGOW, 29th March, 1902.

DR. JOHN M. COWAN informs me he is an applicant for promotion on the dispensary staff of the Western Infirmary. I have known him for many years, and of late he

has done good service for me in the conduct of the clinical classes under my charge, having acted as one of my clinical assistants.

He is admirably fitted for the post he aspires to, having had a sound and varied professional training, and having already acted for some time as a subordinate on the dispensary staff. I can recommend him to the managers of the Western Infirmary with the utmost confidence, as one who will discharge duties committed to him conscientiously and thoroughly; with credit to himself and repute to the institution.

SAMSON GEMMELL.

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*From* ROBERT MUIR, M.D., *Professor of Pathology,*  
*University of Glasgow.*

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW,  
2nd April, 1902.

I HAVE pleasure in writing in strong recommendation of DR. JOHN M. COWAN for the post of Dispensary Physician to the Western Infirmary. His wide training, his excellent record of clinical work, and his high reputation as a teacher, together form an important testimony as to his fitness. But I wish especially to emphasize the fact that he has during the last years carried on important research especially in the domain of cardiac disease. This research has not only involved laborious and painstaking work in the pathological laboratory but has also embraced careful clinical observation; it, in fact, exemplifies the most hopeful mode of investigation, viz., the application of scientific methods to the problems of practical medicine. The results which he has already obtained mark him as

an able investigator, and I have no doubt that his work when completed and fully published will establish his position as a leading authority on the subject. It is to such men as Dr. Cowan that one can confidently look for advancement of the reputation of the hospital and medical school, and I consider that by his appointment a really valuable addition would be made to the staff of Dispensary Physicians.

ROBERT MUIR.





14 WOODSIDE CRESCENT,  
GLASGOW, 14th Dec., 1898.

*TO THE MANAGERS OF  
THE WESTERN INFIRMARY.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to offer myself as a candidate for a post in the Medical Dispensary of the Western Infirmary.

I went up to Cambridge in 1888, and graduated in 1891 as B.A. (Honours) in the Science Tripos. In October, 1891, I returned to Glasgow and completed my Medical education in the University and Western Infirmary, graduating M.B., B.C. Cantab., in the spring of 1895. I am also a Fellow of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow (by examination).

During my Glasgow curriculum, I gained first class certificates in the University classes of Dr. Anderson, Dr. Buchanan, Dr. Murdoch Cameron, and Dr. Macewen, and also in Dr. Samson Gemmell's class in Anderson's College.

Since graduating in 1895, I have acted as House Surgeon and House Physician in the Western Infirmary (1895-96), House Physician in the Royal Hospital for Sick Children (1896), and as Assistant Physician in the City of Glasgow Fever Hospitals (1897-98).

I append testimonials from some of my old teachers and hospital chiefs.

Should I have the honour of being elected, I shall discharge the duties to the best of my abilities, and, I trust, to your satisfaction.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN M. COWAN.





## TESTIMONIALS.

*From* T. CLIFFORD ALLBUTT, LL.D., M.D., *Regius Professor of Physic, University of Cambridge.*

ST. RADEGVND'S,  
CAMBRIDGE, 28th Jan., 1896.

IT is my rule not to give testimonials to graduates who in the final examinations are not among those placed at the head of the list. I find that five men were considered in Mr. Cowan's year to deserve places in this order, but as I find on reference that in the Pathology group Mr. Cowan stood very well, and that in the Medicine group he was but 12 marks (out of 400) behind the fifth and last man placed, and as, moreover, I remember that he read a good thesis in keeping the Act for his degree, I have gladly consented to be guided rather by the spirit than by the letter of my rule, and cordially testify to the creditable position taken by Mr. Cowan in his graduation and express my confidence in his abilities and attainments.

T. CLIFFORD ALLBUTT.

ST. RADEGVND'S.  
CAMBRIDGE, Nov., 1898.

DEAR DR. COWAN,

By all means make use of the testimonial you enclose, now or on any future occasion. It will be better not to alter the date, but to append this letter as a "post-script." I cordially wish you success.

Yours very truly,

T. CLIFFORD ALLBUTT.

*From T. M'CALL ANDERSON, M.D., Regius Professor of  
Medicine, University of Glasgow.*

2 WOODSIDE TERRACE,  
GLASGOW, *November, 1898.*

I HAVE great pleasure in complying with MR. JOHN M. COWAN'S request for a testimonial. The son of an eminent physician, he bids fair to follow in his father's footsteps. In my own class of Clinical Medicine he was the most distinguished student of his year, and I am aware that he has pursued the other branches of the Medical Curriculum with equal assiduity and success. He is very highly educated, and is a graduate in Arts and in Medicine of the University of Cambridge.

I have little doubt that he will make his mark in the profession, and I heartily wish him success.

T. M'CALL ANDERSON.

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*From GEORGE BUCHANAN, LL.D., M.D., Emeritus Pro-  
fessor of Clinical Surgery, University of Glasgow.*

193 BATH STREET,  
GLASGOW, *5th December, 1898.*

DR. JOHN M. COWAN, after passing through a successful career as a student, and taking his degree, acted for six months as house surgeon in my wards, and performed all the duties of that office to my entire satisfaction. From the efficiency of his assistance to me, and his experience elsewhere, I am quite satisfied that he is well qualified for one of the appointments in the medical department of the Western Infirmary Dispensary.

GEORGE BUCHANAN.

*From* SIR HECTOR C. CAMERON, M.D., *Professor of Clinical Surgery, University of Glasgow.*

200 BATH STREET,  
GLASGOW, 10th December, 1898.

AMONG all the younger Physicians in Glasgow whom I know, there is no one whom I consider better entitled than DR. JOHN M. COWAN, both by character and professional acquirements and training, to be added to the staff of one of our General Hospitals.

Dr. Cowan was an industrious and excellent student, and has a knowledge of Medicine such as only a few, at his stage in the profession, possess.

He is an enthusiast in his work, and I sincerely hope that he will succeed now in obtaining the opportunity of utilising his knowledge, and at the same time adding to his experience, in the practice of the out-door department of the Western Infirmary.

I feel sure that he has before him a career of great usefulness and credit, and I shall feel great pleasure in hearing that he has been added to the staff of the Infirmary.

HECTOR C. CAMERON.

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*From* JAMES FINLAYSON, LL.D., M.D., *Physician to the Glasgow Western Infirmary; President of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons.*

2 WOODSIDE PLACE, CHARING CROSS,  
GLASGOW, November 30, 1898.

MR. JOHN M. COWAN, M.B., came under my notice very directly, while he was resident, as house physician, at the Children's Hospital here.

While acting there, he showed great interest in the little patients, and marked ability in watching and reporting the cases. He was on duty for nearly a year.

From his course of education and his experience, as resident at various hospitals, I think his application for an appointment to the out-patient department of the Infirmary deserves every consideration, as he seems likely to make a good use of such advantages.

JAMES FINLAYSON.

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*From* ARTHUR LATHAM, M.A., M.B. Oxon., M.R.C.P. Lond., *Assistant Physician, St. George's Hospital; Assistant Physician, Brompton Hospital for Consumption.*

13 BRUTON STREET,  
BERKELEY SQUARE, W., Nov. 16, 1898.

IT is with unusual confidence that I venture to support DR. JOHN COWAN'S application for the post of Dispensary Physician at the Western Infirmary.

I have known Dr. Cowan for many years and have watched his medical career from its commencement. Dr. Cowan has had exceptional opportunities of learning his profession in both its theoretical and its practical aspects. In addition to this, Dr. Cowan has an earnestness and enthusiasm for his work which is tempered by great breadth of judgment.

I believe Dr. Cowan is more than ordinarily qualified for the post he now seeks, and I am sure that he will prove a most agreeable colleague.

ARTHUR LATHAM.



*From* ALEX. MACALISTER, LL.D., M.D., *Professor of Anatomy in the University of Cambridge.*

CAMBRIDGE, *Nov.* 22, 1898.

DEAR COWAN,—You have the best wishes of all your teachers here for your success in your candidature for the Dispensary Physicianship now vacant. The industry and assiduity with which you worked when here; the success with which you passed your examinations, and the high estimate which your teachers and examiners entertain as to your capacities and qualifications, are well known to us here, and we are very glad to express our appreciation of your work, and to commend you to the consideration of the electors.

With kindest regards and best wishes, believe me, very sincerely yours,

ALEX. MACALISTER.

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*From* JAS. B. RUSSELL, LL.D., M.D., *Medical Member of the Local Government Board for Scotland.*

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD,  
EDINBURGH, *Dec.* 9, 1898.

DR. JOHN M. COWAN, after serving as a resident in the Western Infirmary and Royal Hospital for Sick Children, had charge of wards in the Fever Hospital, Belvidere. He is a cultured gentleman, and has built, upon the substratum of a liberal education, a large practical experience of his profession. Dr. Cowan has already proved his inheritance of the ability to observe carefully, think

clearly, and express himself with ease, in two short papers which he published.

In my opinion, Dr. Cowan would be a very desirable addition to the dispensary staff of the Western Infirmary.

JAS. B. RUSSELL.

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*From the late SIR WILLIAM STOKES, M.D., Surgeon in Ordinary to H.M. the Queen in Ireland; Professor of Surgery in the Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland.*

5 MERRION SQUARE,  
DUBLIN, November 16, 1898.

IT gives me much pleasure in bearing my testimony to DR. J. COWAN'S abilities and professional attainments. Of this I can speak in the highest terms. Dr. Cowan has had a much greater practical experience than falls to the lot of most gentlemen of his standing, and of this he has fully availed himself. I earnestly recommend him as exceptionally well fitted to undertake the duties of Medical Officer to any of our great Medical Charities, and feel confident that the duties of any professional trust reposed in him will be discharged conscientiously and with efficiency. He has my best wishes.

WILLIAM STOKES.

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*From G. P. TENNENT, M.D., Honorary Consulting Physician, Western Infirmary.*

159 BATH STREET,  
GLASGOW, 12th December, 1898.

I DESIRE to give DR. JOHN M. COWAN my heartiest recommendation in his application for the appointment of Dispensary Physician to the Western Infirmary,

Glasgow. Dr. Cowan's medical education has been unusually complete. Of his Clinical work, while a student, I had ample personal experience, and I was then led to form a very high estimate of his abilities. After graduating, Dr. Cowan acted for upwards of six months as Resident Physician in charge of my wards in the Western Infirmary, and my intimate knowledge of him over that period only tended to intensify and more than fully confirm the very high opinion of his abilities already formed. Subsequently, Dr. Cowan was appointed Resident Medical Officer of the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Glasgow, and after holding this appointment for nine months, he was elected one of the Assistant Physicians to the City Fever Hospital at Belvidere. Recently, he has obtained by examination the Fellowship of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow. I regard Dr. Cowan as one of the ablest and most accomplished of the younger members of the Profession, and there are in my opinion few more eminently worthy of, or who will more admirably discharge the duties of, the appointment he now desires to obtain.

G. P. TENNENT.











